

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009



Northeast Creek Mitigation Site
Onslow County
TIP No. B-3682



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July 2009

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SUMMARY

The Northeast Creek Mitigation Site is located in Onslow County. The site was planted in October 2006 and was designed as mitigation for wetland impacts associated with bridge project B-3682.

The mitigation encompasses approximately 0.28 acres of wetland restoration. The restoration effort involved the removal of the old existing roadway fill and monitoring the area to ensure that it re-attains wetland jurisdictional status. Hydrologic monitoring is not required for this project; however, vegetation monitoring is required for three years.

After the third year of monitoring, the Northeast Creek site shows by visual observation that the planted species are surviving and that the impacted area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status. A supplemental planting took place at the mitigation site in January 2008. This was done due to some of the planted trees being cleared by an annual bridge mowing and shrubbing contract let by Bridge Maintenance. The Bridge Maintenance Unit has been made aware of this site and wetland restoration signs have been installed along the perimeter of the site to prevent this from happening in the future.

NCDOT proposes to discontinue vegetation monitoring at the Northeast Creek Mitigation Site.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The Northeast Creek Mitigation site is located at Bridge No. 3 on SR 1423 over Little Northeast Creek and SR 1423 from SR 1413 in Onslow County, North Carolina (Figure 1). The site consists of approximately 0.28 acres of mitigation for wetland impacts associated with project B-3682.

1.2 Purpose

In order for a mitigation site to be considered successful, a site must meet vegetation success criteria. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2009 at the Northeast Creek Mitigation Site. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for the site.

1.3 Project History

October 2006	Site Planted
July 2007	Vegetation Monitoring (1 year)
July 2008	Vegetation Monitoring (2 year)
July 2009	Vegetation Monitoring (3 year)

2.0 VEGETATION: NORTHEAST CREEK MITIGATION SITE (YEAR 3 MONITORING)

2.1 Success Criteria

Success Criteria states that the impacted area where the old existing roadway fill was removed shall be replanted using native species and must re-attain wetland jurisdictional status at the end of three years.

2.2 Description of Species

The following wetland species were planted in the Wetland Restoration Area:

Quercus nigra, Water Oak

Quercus phellos, Willow Oak

Betula nigra, River Birch

Fraxinus pennsylvanica, Green Ash

2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

The impacted area where the old existing roadway fill was removed and revegetated is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status and the planted species are surviving. A supplemental planting took place at the mitigation site in January 2008. This was done due to some of the planted trees being cleared by an annual bridge mowing and shrubbing contract let by Bridge Maintenance. The Bridge Maintenance Unit has been made aware of this site and wetland restoration signs have been installed along the perimeter of the site to prevent this from happening in the future.

Site Notes: Other species noted included: black willow, fennel, *Sagittaria* sp, sedge, cattails, ragweed, red maple, *Juncus* sp., and various grasses.

2.4 Conclusions

There were approximately 0.28 acres of wetland restoration planted on site. There were no plots established on the site. By visual observation, the Northeast Creek site shows that the planted species are surviving and that the impacted area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status.

3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NCDOT proposes to discontinue vegetation monitoring at the Northeast Creek Mitigation Site.

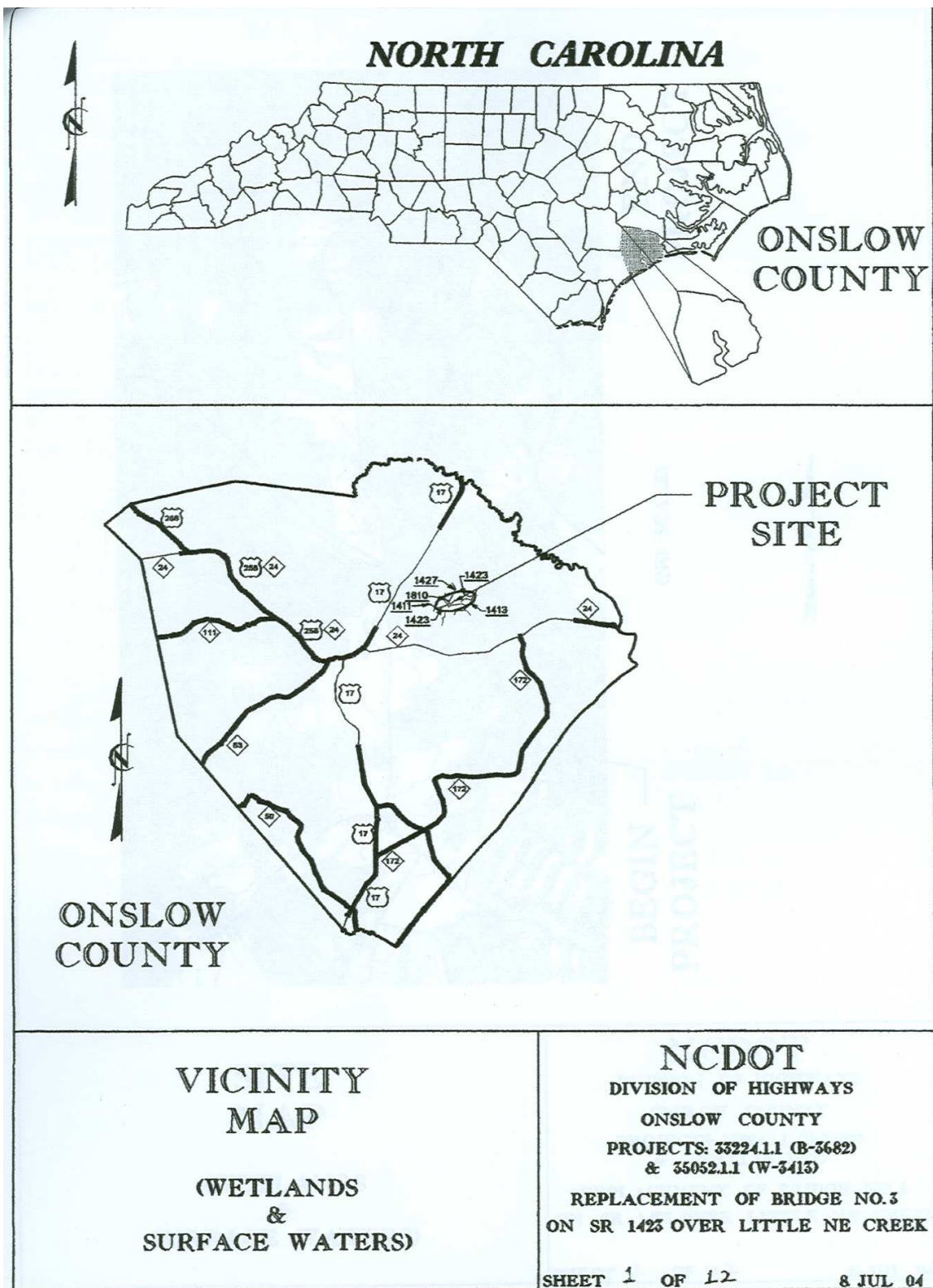


Figure 1. Site Location Map

APPENDIX A

SITE PHOTOS

Northeast Creek



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4